

Serial No. 10/776,164
Art Unit 2661

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-13 (previously cancelled)

Claim 14 (currently amended) A method of limiting a rate at which a connection is serviced at a queuing point for a plurality of connections including the connection, the method comprising:

arranging the plurality of connections into a plurality of prioritized queues;
determining whether the connection would exceeds a rate limit defined for the connection if the connection were serviced immediately;
scheduling the connection in a peak rate limiting shaper ~~queue~~ if the connection would exceed its rate limit; and
scheduling the connection in a weighted-fair-queuing scheduler ~~queue~~ if the connection would not exceed ~~is within~~ its rate limit.

Claim 15 (previously amended) The method as defined in claim 14 wherein the plurality of connections have traffic descriptors associated therewith.

Claim 16 (previously amended) The method as defined in claim 15 wherein the traffic descriptors include the rate limit.

Claim 17 (currently amended) An apparatus for limiting a rate at which a connection is serviced at a queuing point for a plurality of connections including the connection, comprising:

a means to arrange the plurality of connections into a plurality of prioritized queues;
means for determining whether the connection would exceeds a rate limit defined for the connection if the connection were serviced immediately;
means for scheduling the connection in a peak rate limiting shaper ~~queue~~ if the connection would exceeds its rate limit; and
means for scheduling the connection in a weighted-fair-queuing scheduler ~~queue~~ if the connection would not exceed ~~is within~~ its rate limit.

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Claim 18 (previously amended) The apparatus as defined in claim 17 wherein the plurality of connections have traffic descriptors associated therewith.

Claim 19 (previously amended) The method as defined in claim 18 wherein the traffic descriptors include the rate limit.